

I am writing because Amateur Radio is facing a threat from Broadband Over Power Line (BPL). BPL as you know is the delivery of broadband Internet signals using electrical wiring to conduct high-speed digital signals to homes and businesses. Because power lines are not designed to prevent radiation of Radio Frequency energy, BPL represents a significant potential interference source for all radio services using this frequency range, including the Amateur Radio Service. A number of studies have been performed regarding the potential interference to Amateur Radio service. These studies show that BPL will produce such high levels of interference it will make it near impossible for the Amateur Radio service to operate. This is a threat to our national security. Amateur radio operators have provided critical communication service at times of national disaster. A good example was the communication provided just after the 911 disaster.

Here is a section from a newsletter called "Public Service and Emergency Communication".
"From Essex County, New Jersey, Bill Fitzsimmons, N2LMU (AAR2CB), was on the air within sight of the plume of smoke over the World Trade Center. Fitzsimmons not only joined the SHARES net, he also operated the MARS Region 2 digital gateway (covering NY-NJ), relaying emergency traffic to higher headquarters, including the first bulletin on the crash. The bulletin was aired within 15 minutes from David Popkin, W2CC (AAA2NJ), the New Jersey state MARS director. He lives in Englewood, just across the George Washington Bridge from Manhattan. By the end of the operation Popkin had initiated 28 "essential elements of information" status reports. These reports included information on the incident, status of emergency medical facilities, local transportation status, general damage characteristics, area utility status, communications status, information source/time of information, and comments."...

Please help us prevent any regulations that will interfere with this valuable communication service.

Yours,

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